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Publication number:

0 157 262
A1

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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: 85103038.7

22 Date of filing: 15.03.85

51 Int. Cl.⁴: **G 03 F 7/10, C 08 G 75/22,**
C 08 L 81/06
//
(C08L81/06, 61:06),
(C08L81/06, 63:00),
(C08L81/06, 93:00)

50 Priority: 19.03.84 JP 51144/84
31.07.84 JP 158623/84
31.07.84 JP 158624/84

43 Date of publication of application: 09.10.85
Bulletin 85/41

64 Designated Contracting States: **DE FR GB NL**

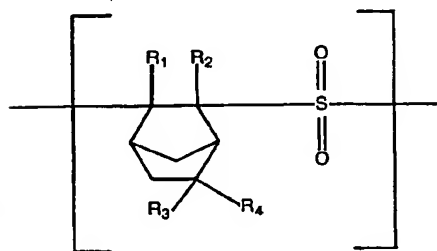
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64 Novel electron beam resist materials.

67 Positive acting electron beam resist materials are described. The material comprises a polymer having fundamental units of the general formula



in which R_1 , R_2 and R_3 independently represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R_4 represents an organic residue having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms. The polymer may be used, as the resist material, as it is or by mixing with other type of resin.

DESCRIPTION

5 This invention relates to electron beam positive resist materials which have high sensitivity to radiations such as electron radiations and X-rays, high resolution, and good dry etching durability.

Electron beam resists adapted to make semiconductor elements such as IC and LSI should meet the
10 following requirements.

- (1) High sensitivity to electron beams.
- (2) High resolution.
- (3) Good dry etching durability.

A great number of electron beam resist materials
15 have been heretofore proposed, but no materials, ever developed, are considered to satisfy all the requirements mentioned above. Accordingly, there is a high demand, in the electronic industries, for electron beam resist materials which have high performance and are appropriately
20 used in practical resist-forming processes. As to the choice between positive and negative acting resists, positive active resists which are more likely to yield high resolution are especially preferred because of the recent increasing tendency toward the fineness of image.

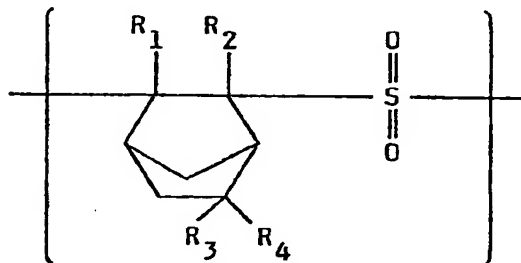
25 Representative of hitherto developed positive acting electron beam resists are polybutene-1-sulfone (PBS) and polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA). Although the PBS resin

has very high sensitivity, it is poor in dry etching resistance and is not so high in resolution. In other words, the requirements (2) and (3) are not satisfied. On the other hand, the PMMA resin has high resolution, but has low sensitivity and poor dry etching durability. Thus, the requirements (1) and (3) are not satisfied.

Polynorbornenesulfone (PNS) has been recently developed as a positive acting resist material which overcomes the drawback of the poor dry etching resistance, common to both PBS and PMMA resins. However, this PNS resin are low in both sensitivity and resolution. The requirements (1) and (2) are not thus satisfied. In this sense, the PNS resin is not considered as a resist material which is satisfactorily utilized in practical applications.

An object of the invention is to provide positive acting electron beam resist materials which meet all the requirements (1) through (3), i.e. the materials have good dry etching durability, and high sensitivity and resolution.

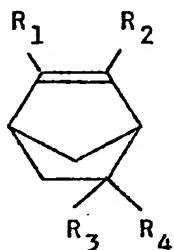
The above object can be achieved by a positive active electron beam resist material which comprises a polymer having, in the molecule thereof, fundamental units of the general formula,



in which R_1 , R_2 and R_3 independently represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon residue having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R_4 represents an organic residue having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms and selected from a hydrocarbon group, a partially or wholly fluorinated hydrocarbon, $-OR_5$ group wherein R_5 is hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, or a partially or wholly fluorinated hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, $-\overset{\text{O}}{\underset{\text{O}}{\parallel}}\text{COR}_5$

wherein R_5 has the same meaning as defined above, and $-\overset{\text{O}}{\underset{\text{O}}{\parallel}}\text{OCR}_5$ wherein R_5 has the same meaning as defined above.

The polymers of the above formula are obtained by copolymerizing compounds of the general formula (A) and SO_2 under conditions described hereinafter:



... (A) .

in which R_1 through R_4 have the same meanings as defined above, respectively.

The compounds of the formula (A) are typically obtained from cyclopentadiene and α,β -unsaturated compounds by the Diels-Alder reaction. The α,β -unsaturated compounds serve as so-called dienophiles in the Diels-Alder reaction.

In the reaction, cyclopentadiene derivatives such

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as methylcyclopentadiene may also be used instead of cyclopentadiene.

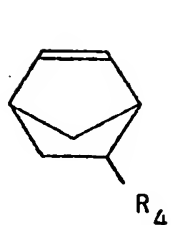
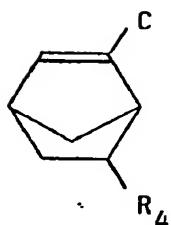
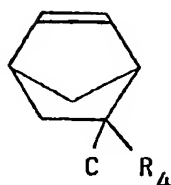
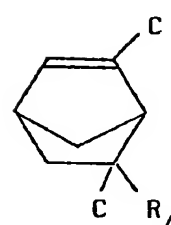
A number of α,β -unsaturated compounds which are reacted with cyclopentadiene or derivatives thereof are used in the practice of the invention. Examples of the α,β -compounds are compounds of the following formulae (B_1) and (B_2),



in which each R_4 has the same meaning as defined before, and include (1) monoethylenically unsaturated hydrocarbon compounds or partially or wholly fluorinated hydrocarbon compounds having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; (2) vinyl alkyl ethers of the formula, $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHOR}_5$, in which R_5 has the same meaning as defined before; (3) esters of carboxylic acids such as vinyl esters of carboxylic acids and isopropenyl esters of carboxylic acids; and (4) acrylic and methacrylic acid esters.

More particularly, when monoethylenically unsaturated compounds (1) of the formulae (B_1) and (B_2) in which R_4 represents hydrocarbon compounds or partially or wholly fluorinated hydrocarbon compounds having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, are reacted with cyclopentadiene or methylpentadiene, the compounds of the following formulae (A_1) through (A_4) are obtained:

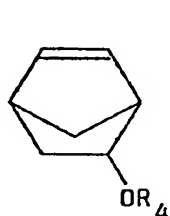
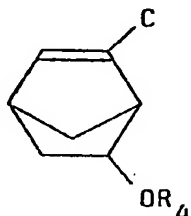
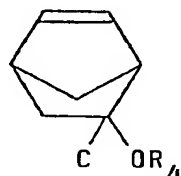
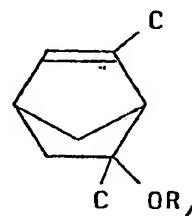
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(A₁)(A₂)(A₃)(A₄)

10

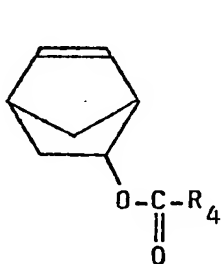
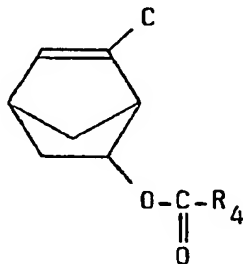
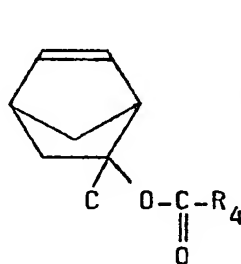
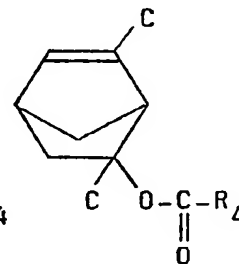
Likewise, the reaction between vinyl alkyl ethers (2) in which R₄ in the formulae (B₁) and (B₂) represents -OR₅ and cyclopentadiene or methylcyclopentadiene results in formation of compounds (A₅) through (A₈)

15

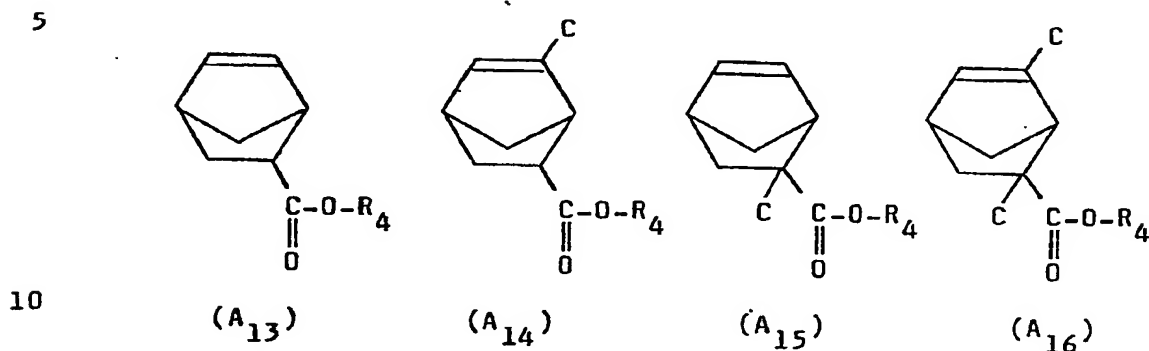
(A₅)(A₆)(A₇)(A₈)

20

The reaction between esters of carboxylic acids such as vinyl esters of carboxylic acids or isopropenyl esters of carboxylic acids (3) and cyclopentadiene or its derivatives is capable of yielding compounds of the formulae (A₉) through (A₁₂)

(A₉)(A₁₀)(A₁₁)(A₁₂)

Moreover, the reaction between acrylic or methacrylic acid esters (4) and cyclopentadiene or its derivatives results in compounds of the formulae (A₁₃) through (A₁₆).



All the compounds of the formulae (A₁) through (A₁₆) are favorably used in the practice of the invention though all other compounds as defined in the formula (A) may be likewise prepared and used.

It will be noted that specific and, in fact, preferable examples of the compounds (1) through (4) are particularly described in Synthetic Examples appearing hereinafter.

20 The copolymerization of compound of the formula (A) and SO₂ is generally conducted in the presence of a catalyst for radical polymerization at a temperature from -100°C to 100°C, preferably from -50°C to 0°C. For the copolymerization, other monomers may coexist in the reaction system. Such monomers should have olefinic carbon-carbon double bonds therein and from 2 to 20 carbon atoms. Examples of these olefins include ethylene, propylene,

25

butene, pentene, hexene, cyclopentene, styrene and mixtures thereof. These olefins are preferably used in an amount not greater than 50 wt% of the compound of the formula (A). If these olefins are used in combination, the resulting
5 copolymer has olefin-SO₂- units in part of the molecule thereof.

The copolymers of the present invention belong to so-called polysulfone. Accordingly, other methods of the synthetic methods of polysulfone may be used to prepare
10 the copolymer such as, for example, by oxidation of polysulfides.

The copolymers useful in the present invention have a number mean molecular weight of from 10,000 to 1,000,000, preferably from 30,000 to 500,000.

15 The resist material of the invention may comprise, aside from the copolymer, other organic materials. Examples of the organic materials include novolac-type phenolic resins, resol-type phenolic resins, epoxy resins, and petroleum resins. These resin materials should preferably
20 be used in amounts not greater than 50 wt% of the copolymer.

The copolymers used in the present invention are soluble in solvents such as chloroform, cyclohexanone, tetrahydrofuran, and dioxane.

When applied as a resist, the copolymer is
25 dissolved in a solvent to obtain a solution having a concentration of from 3 to 40 wt%, preferably from 5 to 20 wt%.

The solution is usually applied to a substrate by a spinner. After completion of the application, the applied substrate may be preheated, if necessary. The heating temperature is from 100 to 200°C, preferably from 140 to 160°C.

The substrate on which the positive acting resist has been coated is exposed to electron beams by any ordinary manner, and the resist in portions where exposed is decomposed.

The developer used after the exposure to electron beams may be mixtures of good solvents such as chloroform, cyclohexanone, tetrahydrofuran and dioxane, or poor solvents such as ethanol, isopropanol or toluene in suitable mixing ratios.

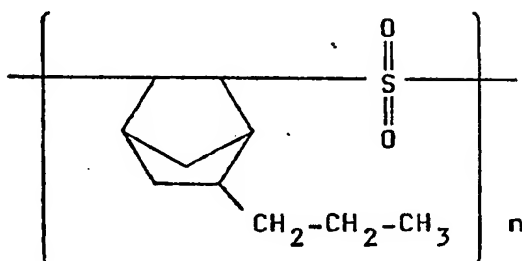
The resist materials of the invention have a dry etching durability equal to PNS, and have higher sensitivity and resolution than PNS. We believe that these higher characteristics are ascribed to the introduction of the specific types of side chains into the molecular structure of the copolymers. In other words, the introduction of the substituent, R_4 , is considered to make a greater difference in solubility in solvent between exposed and unexposed portions.

The present invention is described in more detail by way of examples and comparative examples.

Synthetic Example 1

Synthesis of Polymer I

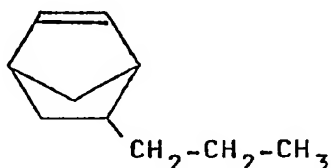
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The Diels-Alder reaction between cyclopentadiene and 1-pentene was carried out at 30°C to obtain, in a yield of 90%, compound (1) of the formula

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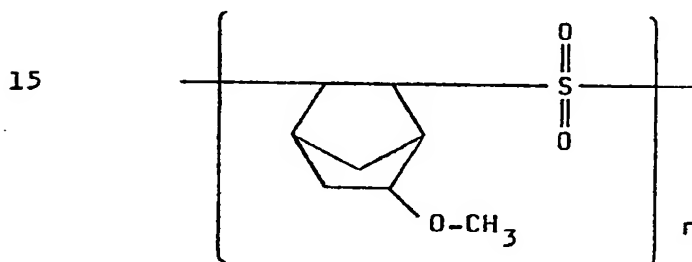
68 g (0.5 mol) of the compound (1) and 0.45 g (0.005 mol) of t-butylhydroperoxide were dissolved in 1000 ml of cyclohexanone and charged into a 2 liter flask equipped with an agitator. While cooling the flask in a low temperature bath, the content was agitated so that the inner temperature was maintained at -20°C, followed by blowing 32 g (0.50 mol) of sulfur dioxide portion by portion for polymerization. After polymerization at -20°C for 1 hour, the resulting polymer oil was dropped into 10 liters of methanol, whereupon white precipitate was produced.

The precipitate was dissolved in chloroform and re-precipitated in methanol for purification. The resulting precipitate was dried at 50°C for 24 hours under reduced pressure to obtain 82 g of the precipitate (yield 82%).

5 The elementary, NMR and IR analyses revealed that the precipitate was a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound (1) and sulfur dioxide. The molecular weight of the copolymer was determined by the GPC analysis using polystyrene as a reference, with the result that $M_n = 5.0 \times 10^4$ and $M_w = 14.8 \times 10^4$.

10 Synthetic Example 2

 Synthesis of Polymer II



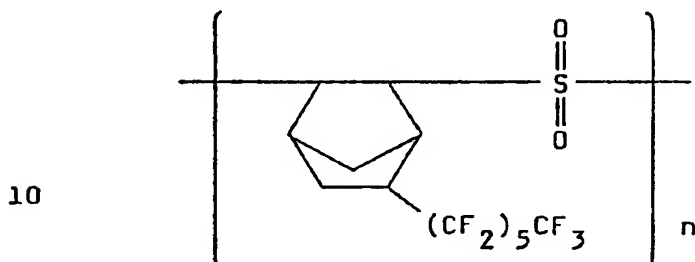
20 Vinyl methyl ether and cyclopentadiene were subjected to the Diels-Alder reaction to obtain compound (2) of the following formula



Subsequently, a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound (2) and sulfur dioxide was prepared in the same manner as in Synthetic Example 1. $M_n: 7.1 \times 10^4$, $M_w: 16.2 \times 10^4$.

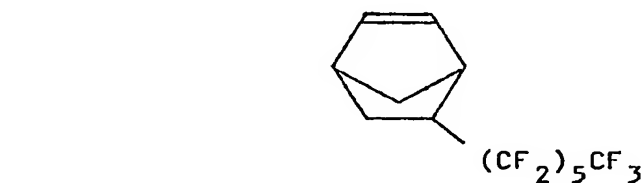
Synthetic Example 3

5 Synthesis of Polymer III



Compound (3) of the following formula was prepared by the Diels-Alder reaction between perfluorohexylethylene and cyclopentadiene

15 and cyclopentadiene



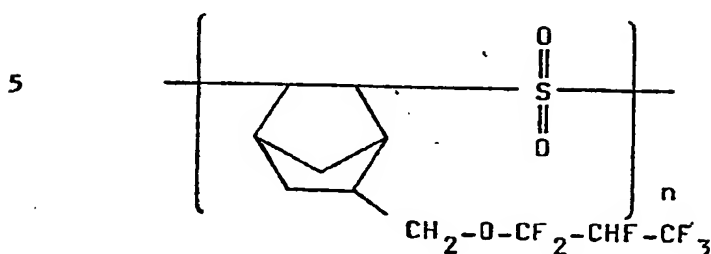
Subsequently, a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound (3) and sulfur dioxide was prepared in the same manner as in Synthetic Example 1. $M_n: 7.1 \times 10^4$, $M_w: 13.4 \times 10^4$.

Synthetic Example 4

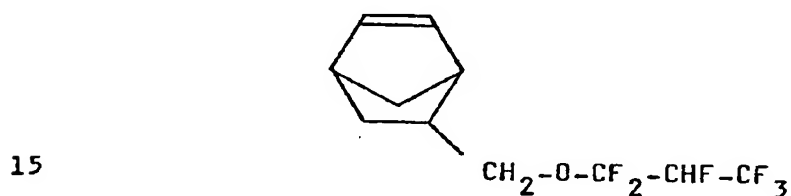
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Synthesis of Polymer IV



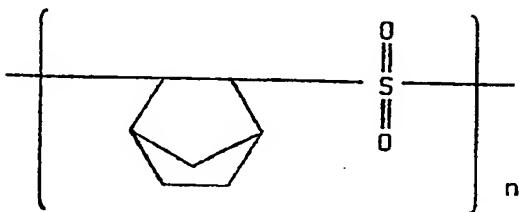
10 Compound (4) of the following formula was prepared by the Diels-Alder reaction between 2-hydroperfluoropropyl allyl ether and cyclopentadiene



Thereafter, a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound (4) and sulfur dioxide was prepared in the same manner as in Synthetic Example 1. $M_n: 4.5 \times 10^4$, $M_w: 9.2 \times 10^4$.

20 Comparative Synthetic Example 1

Synthesis of Polynorbornenesulfone (PNS)



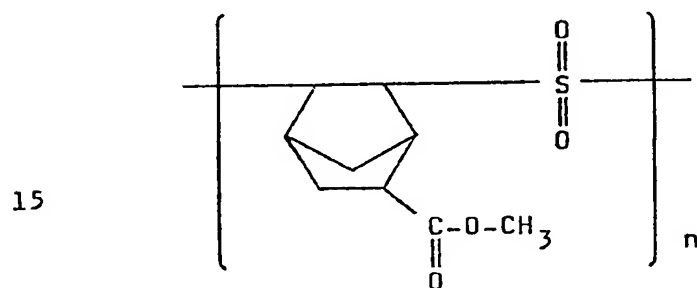
PNS was prepared from norbornene and sulfur dioxide in the same manner as in Synthetic Example 1. Mn: 16.9×10^4 , Mw: 147×10^4 .

Comparative Synthetic Example 2

5 Polymethylmethacrylate solution commercially available under the designation of Resist Solution OEER-1000 (Tokyo Ohka Co., Ltd.) was provided for use in Comparative Example.

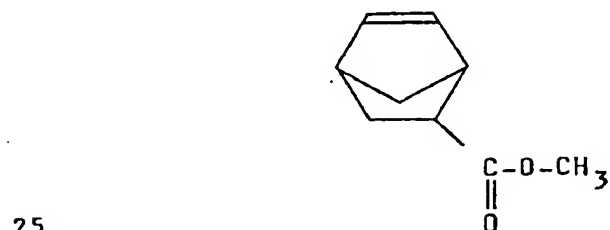
Synthetic Example 5

10 Synthesis of Polymer V



The Diels-Alder reaction between cyclopentadiene and methyl acrylate was conducted at 30°C to obtain compound (5) of the following formula in a yield of 90%.

20



76 g (0.5 mol) of compound (5) and 0.45 mol (0.005 mol) of t-butylhydroperoxide were dissolved in

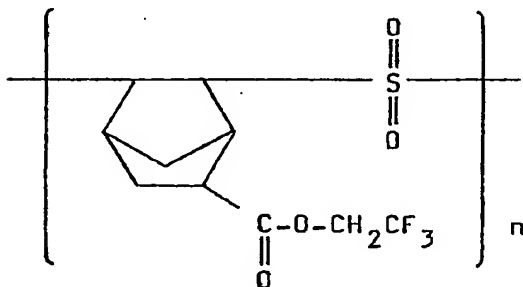
1000 ml of cyclohexanone and charged into a 2 liter flask equipped with an agitator. While cooling the flask in a low temperature bath, the content was agitated so that the inner temperature was maintained at -20°C , followed by
5 blowing 32 g (0.50 mol) of sulfur dioxide, portion by portion, for polymerization. After polymerization at -20°C for 1 hour, the resulting polymer oil was dropped into 10 liters of methanol, whereupon white precipitate was produced. The precipitate was dissolved in chloroform and
10 re-precipitated in methanol for purification. The resulting precipitate was dried at 50°C for 24 hours under reduced pressure to obtain 80 g of the precipitate (yield 74%).

The elementary, NMR and IR analyses revealed that the precipitate was a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound
15 (5) and sulfur dioxide. The molecular weight of the copolymer was determined by the GPC analysis using polystyrene as a reference, with the result that $M_n = 4.6 \times 10^4$ and $M_w = 14.0 \times 10^4$.

Synthetic Example 6

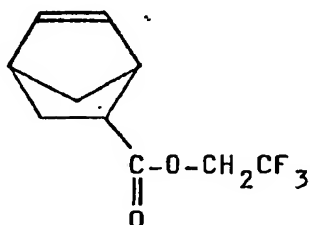
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Synthesis of Polymer VI



The Diels-Alder reaction between 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl acrylate and cyclopentadiene was conducted to obtain compound (6) of the following formula

5

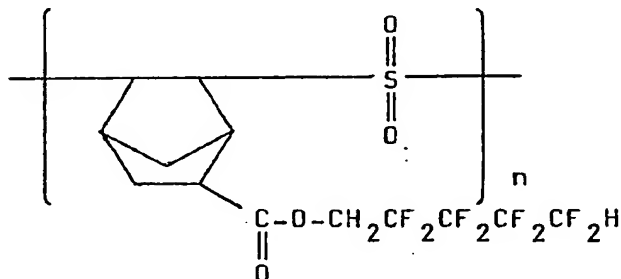


Thereafter, a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound (6) and sulfur dioxide was prepared in the same manner as in Synthetic Example 5. $M_n: 8.2 \times 10^4$, $M_w: 12.6 \times 10^4$.

Synthetic Example 7

Synthesis of Polymer VII

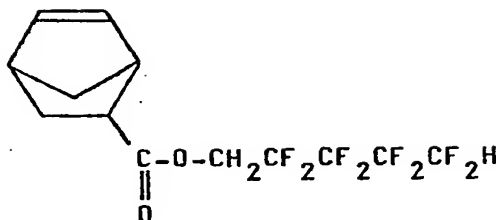
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The Diels-Alder reaction between an ester of 2,2,3,3,4,4,5,5-octafluoropentanol with acrylic acid and cyclopentadiene was conducted to obtain compound (7) of the following formula

25



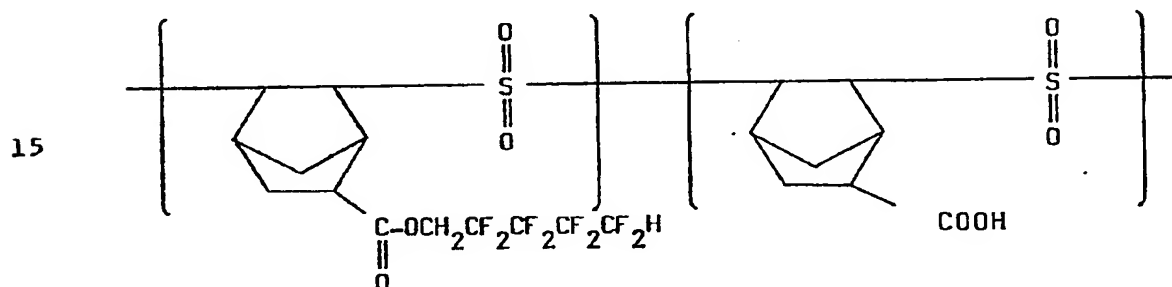
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Thereafter, a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound (7) and sulfur dioxide was prepared in the same manner as in Synthetic Example 5. $M_n: 3.5 \times 10^4$, $M_w: 8.0 \times 10^4$.

10

Synthetic Example 8

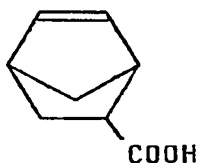
Synthesis of Polymer VIII



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First, acrylic acid and cyclopentadiene were subjected to the Diels-Alder reaction to obtain compound (8) of the following formula

20



25

Thereafter, a mixture of compound (7) obtained in Synthetic

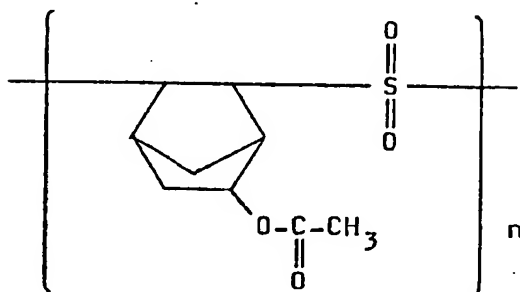
Example 7 and compound (8) in a ratio of 10:1 were reacted with sulfur dioxide to obtain a terpolymer of compounds (7), (8) and sulfur dioxide. $M_n: 3.4 \times 10^4$, $M_w: 7.5 \times 10^4$.

Synthetic Example 9

5

Synthesis of Polymer IX

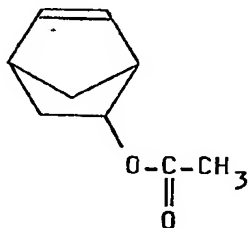
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The Diels-Alder reaction between cyclopentadiene and vinyl acetate acrylate was conducted at 30°C to obtain compound (9) of the following formula in a yield of 92%.

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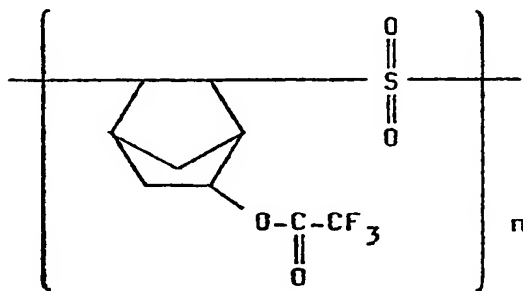
76 g (0.5 mol) of compound (9) and 0.45 mol (0.005 mol) of t-butylhydroperoxide were dissolved in 1000 ml of cyclohexanone and charged into a 2 liter flask equipped with an agitator. While cooling the flask in a low temperature bath, the content was agitated so that the inner temperature was maintained at -20°C, followed by blowing 32 g (0.50 mol) of sulfur dioxide, portion by .

portion, for polymerization. After polymerization at -20°C for 1 hour, the resulting polymer oil was dropped into 10 liters of methanol, whereupon white precipitate was produced. The precipitate was dissolved in chloroform and re-precipitated in methanol for purification. The resulting precipitate was dried at 50°C for 24 hours under reduced pressure to obtain 82 g of the precipitate (yield 75%).

The elementary, NMR and IR analyses revealed that the precipitate was a 1:1 alternating copolymer of compound (9) and sulfur dioxide. The molecular weight of the copolymer was determined by the GPC analysis using polystyrene as a reference, with the result that $M_n = 4.8 \times 10^4$ and $M_w = 15.0 \times 10^4$.

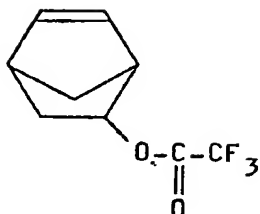
Synthetic Example 10

Synthesis of Polymer X



First, vinyl trifluoroacetate and cyclopentadiene were subjected to the Diels-Alder reaction to obtain compound (10) of the following formula

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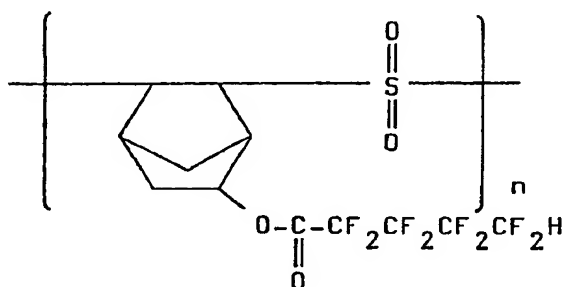
Thereafter, a 1:1 alternating copolymer of the compound (10) and sulfur dioxide was prepared in the same manner as in Example 9. $M_n: 8.4 \times 10^4$, $M_w: 12.8 \times 10^4$.

Synthetic Example 11

10

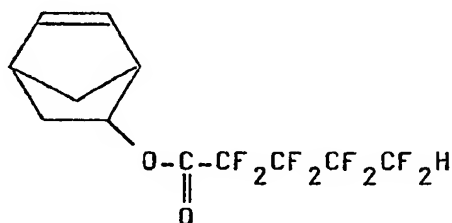
Synthesis of Polymer XI

15



First, vinyl 2,2,3,3,4,4,5,5-octafluorovalerate and cyclopentadiene were subjected to the Diels-Alder reaction to obtain compound (11) of the following formula

20



25

Thereafter, a 1:1 alternating copolymer of the compound (11) and sulfur dioxide was prepared in the same manner

as in Example 9. Mn: 3.6×10^4 , Mw: 8.2×10^4 .

Examples 1-11 and Comparative Examples 1-2

Copolymers I through XI obtained in Synthetic Examples 1 through 11, and the PNS obtained in Comparative Synthetic Example 1 were each dissolved in cyclohexanone to obtain a 10 wt% solution. These solutions and the commercially sold PMMA resist solution OEBR-1000 were each applied onto a silicon wafer in a thickness of about 0.5 μm by the use of a spinner. Subsequently, the applied wafers were preheated in a nitrogen-substituted thermostatic chamber at a temperature of 160°C for 1 hour.

An electron beam resist-assessing apparatus ERE-301 (ELIONIX Co., Ltd.) using electron beam exposure was provided to evaluate the respective resists under conditions of an acceleration voltage of 20 KV. After exposure, the respective resists were developed using a developer which was selected depending on the type of resist material, and a change in thickness of each resist was measured. In view of the relation between the exposure and the thickness, a characteristic curve was drawn to determine the sensitivity and contrast (an indicator of resolution, better at higher contrast) of each resist.

The plasma etching resistance of each film was evaluated as follows: a plasma reactor PR-501 (Yamato Scientific Co., Ltd.) was used and the resistance to CF_4 plasma was assessed in terms of a reduction speed of the film thickness per unit time.

The results of the evaluations are shown in Table below. The results of the resists obtained from the copolymers of Examples 1 through 4 and the materials from Comparative Examples 1 and 2 are shown in Figs. 1 and 2 since the other copolymers of the invention are similar in results to those of Examples 1 through 4. Fig. 1 shows a graphical representation of the relation between film thickness and electron beam exposure for the resists of Examples 1 through 4 in comparison with the resists of Comparative Examples 1 and 2. Fig. 2 is a graphical representation of the relation between etched resist thickness and plasma etching time for inventive and comparative resists.

Table

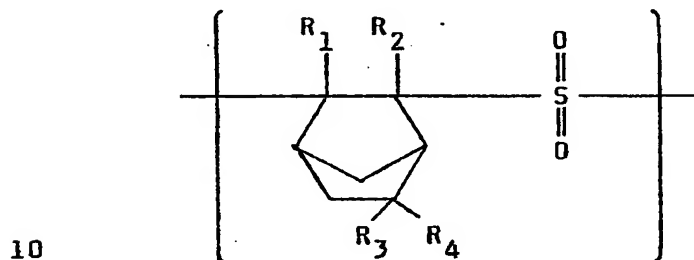
Ex. No.	Resist Material	Developer Composition (time: 3 min.)	Resist Performances		
			Sensi- tivity ($\mu\text{c}/\text{cm}^2$)	Contrast	CF ₄ Plasma Etching Speed (angstrom/ min)
1	Polymer I	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 7/3	9.1	3.5	60
2	Polymer II	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 6/4	6.6	3.6	68
3	Polymer III	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 3/7	3.2	5.1	54
4	Polymer IV	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 3/7	3.6	5.1	64
5	Polymer V	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 7/3	9.0	3.4	60
6	Polymer VI	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 1/9	6.5	3.5	70
7	Polymer VII	tetrahydrofuran/ isopropanol = 1/9	3.0	5.0	55
8	Polymer VIII	methanol/ isopropanol = 1/9	3.5	4.0	57
9	Polymer IX	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 7/3	8.9	3.4	59
10	Polymer X	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 1/9	6.4	3.5	69
11	Polymer XI	methanol/ isopropanol = 1/9	2.9	5.0	54
Com. Ex. 1	PNS	tetrahydrofuran/ methanol = 7/3	50	1.8	50
Com. Ex. 2	PMMA	methyl isobutyl ketone/isopropanol = 1/3	65	5.5	160

The resists of the polymers I through XI of the invention exhibit almost the same dry-etching durability as the PNS resist and have higher sensitivity. The contrast of the resists of Examples 1 through 11 are higher than
5 the contrast of the PNS resist of Comparative Example 1. Thus, the resists of the invention have high resolution. The PMMA resist of Comparative example 2 exhibits high resolution, but are low in sensitivity and poor in etching durability.

What is claimed is:

1. A positive active electron beam resist material which comprises a polymer having, in the molecule thereof, fundamental units of the general formula,

5



15 in which R_1 , R_2 and R_3 each represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon residue having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R_4 represents an organic residue having from 1 to 20 atoms.

2. The resist material according to Claim 1, wherein R_4 is an organic residue containing fluorine.

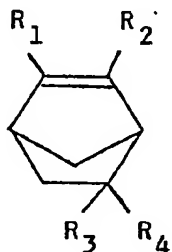
3. The resist material according to Claim 1, wherein R_4 is selected from a hydrocarbon group, a partially or wholly fluorinated hydrocarbon, $-OR_5$ group wherein R_5 is hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, or a partially or wholly fluorinated hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, $-C(=O)R_5$ wherein R_5

25 has the same meaning as defined above, and $-O-C(=O)R_5$ wherein R_5

R_5 has the same meaning as defined above.

4. The resist material according to Claim 1,
wherein said material consists of said polymer.

5. A positive active electron beam resist
material, which comprises a polymer obtained by
5 copolymerizing a compound of the following formula (A)



... (A)

10 wherein R_1 , R_2 and R_3 are each hydrogen or a hydrocarbon
residue having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R_4 is an
organic residue having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, with sulfur
dioxide and at least one compound, which has an olefinic
15 carbon-carbon double bond, in amount of not greater than
50 wt% of the compound of the formula (A).

20 6. The resist material according to any one of
the preceding claims, further comprising up to 50 wt%, based
on said polymer, of novolac-type phenolic resins, resol-type
phenolic resins, epoxy resins, petroleum resins and mixtures
thereof.

FIG. 1

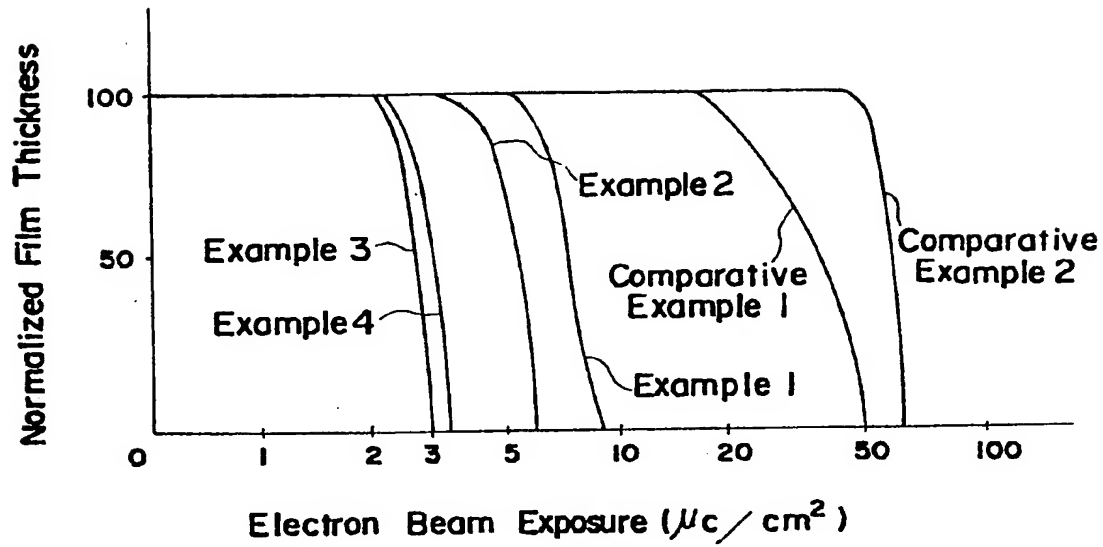
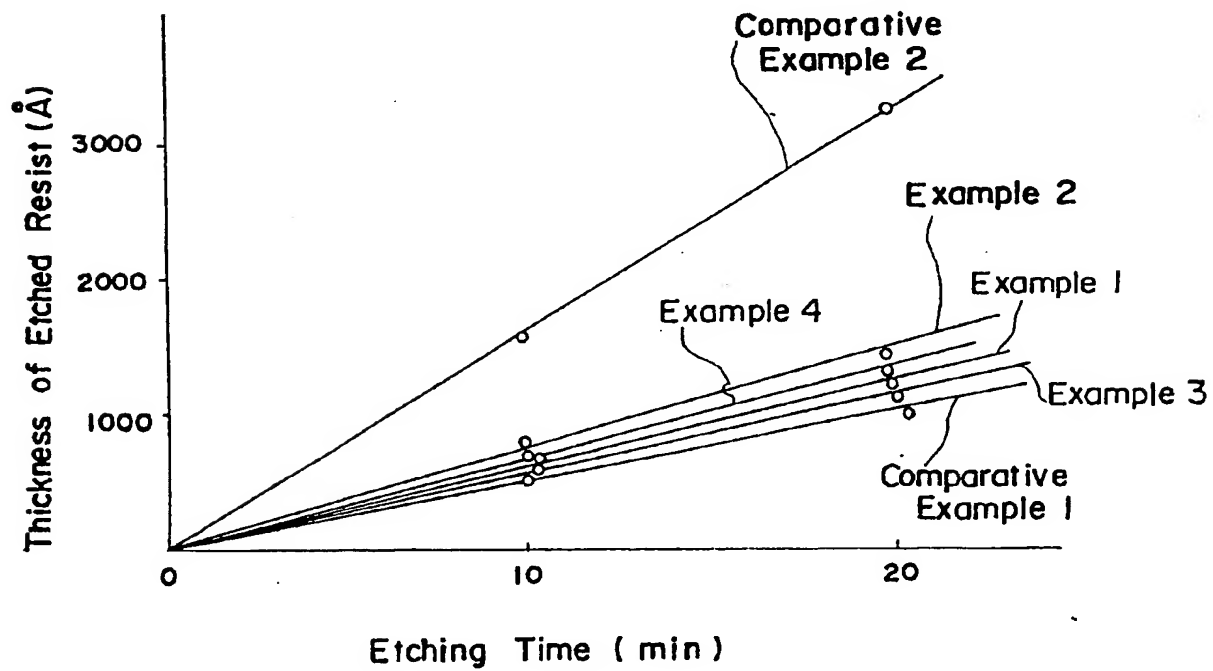


FIG. 2





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0157262

Application number

EP 85 10 3038

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
X,Y	US-A-3 893 127 (M.KAPLAN, et al.) * Claims; column 1, lines 45-67; column 2, lines 1-5 *	1-6	G 03 F 7/10 C 08 G 75/22 C 08 L 81/06 // (C 08 L 81/06) C 08 L 61:06) (C 08 L 81/06) C 08 L 63:00) (C 08 L 81/06) C 08 L 93:00)
Y	US-A-2 899 412 (J.R.CALDWELL, et al.) * Claims; column 5, lines 11-12 *	1-6	
A	US-A-3 313 785 (N.L.ZUTTY) * Claims *	1-6	
A	DE-A-3 322 886 (HITACHI) * Claims *	1,6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			G 03 F C 08 G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 17-06-1985	Examiner DERAEDT G.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	